

# Culicidae from New Caledonia and the Loyalty Islands

by

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Wye (Kent).

Three species of Mosquitoes were taken by the Expedition in New Caledonia and the Loyalty Islands.

A single specimen damaged by being placed in spirit may possibly be new but as far as I can see it so closely resembles *Culex nocturnus* Theobald, that I mention it as a small dark variety of that species. The specimens were collected by DRs. F. SARASIN and J. ROUX.

## Gen. *Culex* L.

### 1. *Culex jepsoni* Theobald.

The Entomologist, Vol. XLIII, p. 188, 1910.

NEW CALEDONIA: Oubatche; 21. IV. 1911, 27 ♀'s taken in house.

They exactly agree with the specimens from Fiji that I have and from which Island the species was originally described from a single ♀. The type I believe I gave to the British Museum the paratypes are in my own collection. It can be told from the next species by (I) having apical and basal leg banding, (II) no median lateral abdominal spots and (III) simple fore, and mid unguis.

### 2. *Culex nocturnus* Theobald.

Mono-Culicidae, Vol. III, p. 159, Fig. 86, 1903.

NEW CALEDONIA: Canala, 26. II. 1912, 10 ♀.

LOYALTY-ISLANDS: Ouvéa, Fayaoué, 16. V. 1912, 7 ♀.

This species was described from several ♀'s sent me from Fiji taken by DR. HALL at Ba. It was found in houses and active at night. I have not seen it since and M. JEPSON, Government Entomologist of Fiji had not come across it when he last wrote me.

The marked pale basal banding with median lateral white spots, the basally banded legs and widely banded proboscis make it a very marked species.

The Canala specimens were smaller than those from the Loyalty Islands, but agree in all structural features.

A few varied from the type in having two dusky spots on the first three basal white bands.

In the original description I described the venter as being ochraceous; all the specimens from New Caledonia and the Loyalty Islands show narrow basal black bands.

The specimens sent in spirit showed the very broad pale banding much more markedly than when dried. In Fiji this species was recorded as occurring in April, May and June.

3. **Culex nocturnus niger** n. var.

NEW CALEDONIA: Canala, 26. II. 1912.

A single small specimen in spirit from Canala (26. II. 12) differs from the typical form in the following points; proboscis black with a narrow pale band on the basal half; antennae and clypeus all dark brown to black; lateral median abdominal spots not so prominent; the relative lengths of the fork-cells and their stems not as in the type. Structurally it agrees with the typical form hence in spite of its apparent difference I have only described it as a small, dark variety.

TYPE in the Bale Museum.

Gen. **Chrysoconops** Goeldi.

4. **Chrysoconops acer** Walker.

*Culex acer* WALKER, List. Brit. Mus. Dipt., 7, 1848.

*Tacniorhynchus acer* THEOB., Mono-Culicid., II., p. 211, 1901.

» » » » V., p. 439, 1910.

NEW CALEDONIA: Bourail, 27. I. 1912, 1 ♀.

The single female was sent in spirit and was much rubbed, no scales being on most of the abdomen, consequently the purple markings had gone, but in all other characters it agrees with WALKER'S *acer*, originally described from New Zealand and which I have also received from Queensland, Australia.